

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



AIR & WASTE DIVISION Annual Report, 2003

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Regulatory Improvement in the Air & Waste Division.....	1
Regulatory Improvement Initiatives	
Bureau of Cooperative Environmental Assistance.....	2
Bureau of Air Management.....	4
Bureau for Remediation & Redevelopment.....	6
Bureau of Waste Management.....	9
Success Stories.....	11

*The Air & Waste Division Annual Report, 2003 is available at:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/environmentprotect/AR03.pdf>*



REGULATORY IMPROVEMENT In the Air & Waste Division

Theme: Smart Regulation

The theme of the Air & Waste Division regulatory improvement effort is "**Smart Regulation.**" Our attitudes and our actions will reflect the following attributes and our Division managers and staff will be accountable for assuring that these attributes are reflected in our programs.

- **Responsive** - We understand the needs of our internal and external partners and stakeholders. We listen and we respond to changing needs and circumstances.
- **Efficient** - We embrace innovation and avoid waste. We establish priorities to get the job done in the most efficient manner possible.
- **Timely** - Our programs meet or exceed expectations for timeliness. We establish realistic expectations and we are accountable for those expectations.
- **Effective** - Our mission is to protect and restore Wisconsin's environment. We take that responsibility seriously and emphasize environmental results.
- **Consistent** - Our regulations are administered fairly and consistently. When inconsistency is identified, we correct it.

These five attributes aren't something entirely new to our Air & Waste Division programs—they're attributes that DNR programs have always strived for. However, in these times of budgetary crisis and regulatory improvement, our "Smart Regulation" theme requires a renewed emphasis, visibility and accountability for these attributes.

Regulatory Improvement Objectives

Consistent with our "Smart Regulation" theme, the Air & Waste Division has established four regulatory improvement objectives. Our regulatory improvement attributes (responsive, efficient, timely, effective and consistent) will be reflected in our efforts to implement these objectives.

1. To fully and efficiently deliver services under the Clean Air Act, including eliminating permit backlogs, streamlining permitting processes, and improving regulations.
2. To streamline our processes and reviews that prevent adverse impacts to public health and the environment related to management of waste materials.
3. To respond to environmental emergencies and to restore contaminated land and water to levels that protect public health and the environment in a manner that promotes redevelopment.
4. In cooperation with our stakeholders, promote innovation, pollution prevention, education and technological advances that achieve superior environmental results.

REGULATORY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

In the Air & Waste Division

2003

Bureau of Cooperative Environmental Assistance

www.dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cea/

Wisconsin is seeing results from progressive Regulatory Improvement. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Bureau of Cooperative Environmental Assistance is proud to play a key role. Here are examples:

[Permit Primer](#)

Debuting in June 2003, this on-line tool helps businesses identify the permits they need to comply with environmental regulations and gives pollution prevention strategies. This popular site receives approximately 2,000 hits per month with an average visit length consistently over 10 minutes long.

[Environmental Cooperative Agreements](#)

The flexibility offered in our seven internationally recognized pilot agreements has led to environmental gains, for example:

- Captured more than 1.1 million lbs./yr. of methanol over and above what the current MACT (maximum achievable control technology) rule would have captured.
- Recovered approximately 100,000 tons of ash, replacing 300 rail cars of coal, from company's landfills and beneficially reused as fuel and cement substitute - enough to cover a football field 50 feet deep.
- Stopped burning hazardous wastes in their incinerator, and eliminated the need to have a costly license.
- Reduced cleaning solvents from 1.7 million pounds a year to less than 1.2 million pounds a year at a cost saving of about \$80,000 annually in raw material costs.
- Introduced new product lines of low VOC coatings and polymers, including water based alkyd resins. These products, more environmentally friendly to produce, also help their customers reduce emissions and meet Clean Air requirements.
- Reduced natural gas use by 18,000 mcf (thousand cubic feet) annually.
- Saved \$40k annually in gas costs, \$11k in recurring costs and major incinerator overhaul costs.
- Eliminated 2500 pages/year of regulatory records and 3100 hours of previously required record keeping at one facility.
- Reduced soiled towel disposal/usage by 55% and reduced solvent usage/disposal by 43%.
- Commenced construction 45 days earlier than allowed by the former regulatory process.
- Implemented nationally recognized stakeholder involvement processes that have increased community acceptance and resulted in shared environmental goals.

[Business Sector Relations](#)

A significant portion of our work creates new working relationships with business sectors. These efforts are paying off for the environment as well. Here are examples:

- **Aquaculture** – Joint development of regulatory reforms to address environmental and industry needs.
- **Construction and Demolition** – Launched initiative to streamline regulatory processes resulting in reuse and recycling of construction wastes.
- **Dairy Gateway** – Three farms volunteered to develop environmental baseline information. Community, performance-based networks are now being formed to link government, community and producer interests.
- **Hot Mix Asphalt Environmental Leadership Award** – Recognized 3 new winners and 20 renewals in 2003.

- **P2 Partnership with Paper Industry** – Completed the 10th year of performance based working relationship that has yielded over 63.4 % reduction in pollutants without additional regulatory intervention.
- **Wisconsin Dry Cleaners 5 Star Program** – In 2003, 31 dry cleaners voluntarily participated in Wisconsin's 5 Star Recognition Program, four of which achieved the 5 star level.
- **Wisconsin Storm Water Cooperative Compliance Program** – In support of the Water Division, over 75% of the auto salvage and scrap yards that require a storm water permit participate in the Cooperative Compliance Program (CCP). The CCP has allowed storm water staff to focus on the non-complying facilities.

Environmental Results Legislation

Designed market-based systems with financial (insurance, banking, investment, etc.) opportunities, stakeholder engagement strategies, performance-based culture, and performance tools for regulatory improvement.

- **Charters** – Three industry sectors have reviewed the charter model and formally agreed to enter into negotiations with DNR, first in the nation to test this model.
- **Environmental Contracts** – Over 20 companies have expressed interest in new contracting provisions to improve environmental and economic performance.
- **Clusters** – Direct engagement in and support of Printing and Paper Industry clusters including advocacy for Paper Industry regulatory innovation proposal.

Mercury

- **Community Mercury Reduction Program** – Collected and recycled over 13,600 lbs. of elemental mercury in last five years, through voluntary efforts in 20 cooperating communities.
- **Mercury Manometer Replacement Program** – Replaced 525 manometers at Wisconsin dairy farms containing 405 pounds of mercury.
- **Auto Scrap and Waste Recyclers Mercury Collection Program** – In 2003, 150 lbs. of mercury were voluntarily collected from 75 voluntary participants, the largest unsubsidized collection program in the US.

Small Business

Designed alternatives for small business regulatory reform legislation and developed implementation strategies for small business regulatory reform provisions.

Small Business Environmental Council

Provided advance engagement on policy decisions and rules.

Environmental Management Systems (EMS)

Wisconsin businesses increased the use of EMS by 15% in an effort to improve environmental performance and accountability. There are now 288 facilities statewide reporting the use of environmental management systems.

EMS Permits

Multi-state coalition for developing EMS permits as a regulatory alternative.

Innovation Stakeholders

Developed six recommendations for lasting culture change, delivered to the DNR secretary. Implementation is underway.

Voluntary PBT Reduction

Designed voluntary strategies for PBT reduction.

For more information on any of these initiatives, please contact Mark McDermid, Director, Bureau of Cooperative Environmental Assistance, mark.mcdermid@dnr.state.wi.us, 608/267-3125, or visit our Web site: www.dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cea/.

Bureau of Air Management

www.dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/air/

Regulatory Alternatives

[Voluntary Emission Reduction Registry](#)

The Voluntary Emission Reduction Registry offers Wisconsin companies, governments and other organizations the opportunity to record voluntary reductions of greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions. The Registry includes a database and web site where reductions are recorded and published. Some of the benefits of registering include public recognition, a one-stop shop for an emissions market (such as offsets in ozone nonattainment areas), and potential for future regulatory relief for early action.

[Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air in Southeastern Wisconsin](#)

This voluntary group was formed to replace a regulatory program, the Employee Commute Options program, in the State's air quality plan. Their mission is to:

- Support/implement voluntary programs to improve air quality.
- Achieve a (approx.) 2 tons/day reduction in VOC emissions.
- Expand the public's knowledge of ozone formation and its health effects.
- Reduce future costs of doing business in the region by meeting the federal health standard.
- Increase public awareness about clean air and encourage individuals to take actions that improve air quality.
- Formally recognize businesses and/or individuals for their voluntary actions (2 tons/day) of VOC reductions.
- Help in quantifying voluntary reductions.

[CMAQ School Bus Retrofit](#)

This is a program in Southeast Wisconsin to retrofit diesel school buses using EPA-approved technologies to reduce VOC, NOx, fine particles, toxics and CO. When implemented this project will replace a regulatory program, the Clean Fuel Fleets program, in the State's air quality plan. The project is also linked with Milwaukee Air Toxics program. Funding for the project has been recently approved.

[CMAQ Gas Cap Wrench](#)

In SE WI, the DNR received a grant to provide free gas cap wrenches to motorists with arthritis, weak or injured hands/wrists. When fully implemented the program will save up to 1,000,000 gallons/year of gasoline that normally evaporates into the atmosphere. The program attains emission reductions that improve air quality, reducing the burden on the regulated community.

Regulatory Assistance

[NR 428 Rule Revision for Combustion on Landfill Gas](#)

At the request of an industrial source, the DNR revised NR 428 to add a new emission limit for combustion of biologically derived fuels (such as landfill gas) in combustion turbines. The change promotes the beneficial use of landfill gas and reduces the fuel costs for facilities that would ordinarily burn natural gas in their turbines.

Regulatory Improvement

[New Source Permit Retooling](#)

The program is aimed at improving the new source permitting process and rules. The objectives of the program are to:

- Protect air quality;
- Include important components of the federal new source review rules;
- Provide administrative flexibility;
- Provide certainty;

- Provide consistency; and
- Provide clarity.

NR 445 Revisions

Numerous improvements were included in the NR 445 rule revisions to streamline the regulatory process and reduce the administrative burden. These include:

- Creation of an Incidental Emitters category. These are sources that are expected to have limited or no emissions of hazardous air pollutants. Their compliance requirements are limited to certain processes and chemicals of special concern.
- Allowing facilities to self-certify their compliance with NR 445 requirements rather than obtaining a construction permit or re-opening an operation permit.
- Including risk-based demonstrations of compliance as an alternative to installing technology controls.
- Allowing facilities to demonstrate through an easy-to-use air dispersion model that their emissions do not exceed standards.
- Including “Safe Harbor” language that provides facilities with the assurance that if they exercise due diligence and meet regulatory requirements for any NR 445 substance identified, they will not be held legally liable if it is later found that they emit a NR 445 substance over threshold levels. They will be required to come into compliance in a timely manner, but will not be retroactively penalized.

NOx Emission Averaging as an Alternative Compliance Method in NR 428

DNR added an alternative compliance method for rules that regulate emissions of NOx compounds from electric generating units in Southeastern Wisconsin. The alternative compliance method allows the electric utilities to average emission rates across all of their units so each unit does not have to meet the emission limit. This flexibility allows the electric utilities to apply the best controls to their big base load plants and lesser controls to peaking plants. This greatly reduces the compliance costs for the utilities.

General Permits as a Streamlined Mechanism for Operation Permits and Construction Permits

DNR has used a General Operation permit (GOP) as a faster and cheaper way to permit facilities that are similar in nature with fairly standard emission patterns. We have issued GOP's for rock crushing facilities, diesel generators and ethylene oxide sterilizers. We are in the process of generating a GOP for some small printing operations. DNR recently received authority to issue General Permits for construction permits as well. In January, the Natural Resources Board is expected to act on a request to authorize public hearings on a rule to guide implementation of the general construction permits.

For more information on any of these initiatives, please contact Lloyd Eagan, Director, Bureau of Air Management, lloyd.eagan@dnr.state.wi.us, 608/266-0603, or visit our Web site: www.dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/air/.

Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment

www.dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/

Helping restore the environmental and economic health of Wisconsin communities.

Nationally Recognized Regulatory Reforms and Brownfields Innovations.

Wisconsin is consistently one of the top 5 states in the nation for incentives to promote cleanup and reuse of brownfields. Major regulatory improvements in the early 1990's include:

- Created environmental cleanup rules that are consistent for all types of contamination, allow cleanups to proceed without DNR reviews, provide choices among flexible options, and save time and money without sacrificing the level of protection;
- Allowed natural degradation of contaminants to often replace costly engineered cleanup systems; and
- Helped 95 percent or more of the cleanups undertaken by responsible parties proceed without enforcement.

Quick Fact: XL Insurance's 2003 national study on brownfields finds Wisconsin to be one of the "consistent leaders in brownfields redevelopment" for the third year in a row, and in October Wisconsin was recognized for its innovative work in brownfields insurance at the 2003 National Brownfields Conference.

11,000 Approved Cleanups of Contaminated Properties.

We've approved more than 11,000 cleanups of contaminated properties by working cooperatively with those who are responsible.

Quick Fact: On average, we approve 500 completed cleanups each year, increasing property values and local tax revenues.

Economics of Brownfields Redevelopment.

We help turn former contaminated sites – brownfields – into economically productive properties.

Quick Facts: At properties where the state (DNR and Dept. of Commerce) has offered grants and technical assistance:

- The property tax base has increased by at least **\$400 million**;
- More than **4,000 new full-time jobs** were created/retained;
- \$14.50 in private and local government invested for every grant dollar; and
- \$23.5 million in grant requests represents \$375 million in public-private project investment (2003 Commerce and DNR grant applications).

Saving Money through Prevention and Control of Toxic Spills.

We partner with state and local emergency responders at hazardous substance spills.

Quick Facts:

- DNR's prompt response to 800 spills each year reduces environmental impacts and costs.
- We help avoid hundreds of other spills through education and prevention efforts.

State-Funded Response at Orphan Sites.

When a responsible party is unknown, unable or unwilling to conduct environmental restoration, the RR Program protects human health and the environment with a state-funded cleanup.

Quick Facts:

- More than \$62 million invested in more than 300 response actions since 1994, with \$14 million recovered from responsible parties through legal action.
- We partner with communities (e.g. Kenosha, Elkhorn) to combine environmental and economic development priorities. In Kenosha, DNR's \$600,000 investment resulted in a property value increase from \$0 to \$50 million, with approximately \$890,000 in tax revenue in 2003.

For more information on any of these initiatives, please contact Mark Giesfeldt, Director, Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment, mark.giesfeldt@dnr.state.wi.us, 608/267-7562, or visit our Web site: www.dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rrr/.



Site - AMC Corp. late '60s'



56th Street Townhomes

KENOSHA – Harbor Park Redevelopment

Previous Use(s): American Motors Corporation assembly plant. After the plant closed, it remained an underused property for years.

Current Use(s): *As of 2003, the new harbor park redevelopment is near completion, and includes condominium developments, bike and walking trails, trolley service to and from downtown, and two new museums.*

Economic & Community Benefits: Property values have increase \$50 million from 1989-2003, nearby property values increased by more than \$13 million, 22 jobs created, improved harbor redevelopment helped increase property taxes by nearly \$900,000 in 2003.

Financial Assistance: \$850,000 Dept. of Commerce Brownfields Grant (1998); \$600,000 in cleanup assistance from DNR (1999), Tax Incremental Financing (TIF).



WEST MILWAUKEE – Stadium Business Center Redevelopment

Previous Use(s): A former sand blasting and painting operation operated at the site until the early 1990s. The contaminated property has sat idle for more than 10 years.

Current Use(s): *After cleanup, the city worked with the DNR and developers to build the Stadium Business Center, a 44,000 square foot office and warehouse facility.*

Economic & Community Benefits: Property values have increased from \$300,000 to \$2.5 million; the new facility houses six businesses and employs approximately 131 people.

Financial Assistance: \$390,000 Dept. of Commerce Brownfields Grant (1998), \$1.8 million from Wisconsin DNR State Funded Response Program and \$312,413 from the Village of West Milwaukee and Milwaukee County.



LA CROSSE – Riverside Redevelopment Project

Previous Use(s): The site encompasses four different properties, which were used as a cooperage and barrel warehouse; a coal, coke and salt storage facility and as a former petroleum company.

Current Use(s): *The CenturyTel, Inc., headquarters building was completed in 2001, and sits along the banks of the Mississippi River.*

Economic & Community Benefits: Approximately 500 service jobs retained and 100 service jobs created at an annual payroll of \$20 million; increase in property value from \$600,000 to more than \$25 million; renovation of river front area that had remained underused for years

Financial Assistance: \$1 million Dept. of Commerce Brownfields Grant (1998); DNR conducted Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments at no cost through federal Brownfields Site Assessment Program (BEAP), est. value at \$30,000; city of La Crosse provided funding at various stages of assessment, investigation and cleanup.



BARABOO – Baraboo City Services Center

Previous Use(s): Chicago & Northwestern rail yard, warehouse, scrap yard, and repair yard operated at the property.

Current Use(s): *The new Baraboo City Services Center was completed in 2002. It is home to the public utility, streets and sanitation, water utility, and parks departments.*

Economic & Community Benefits: State of the art public services facility built; consolidation of city government into badly needed new facilities; needed infill project spurring further downtown revitalization; removed blight in major state tourist area (adjacent to Circus World facilities).

Financial Assistance: \$250,000 Dept. of Commerce Brownfields Grant (2000); \$30,000 DNR Brownfields Site Assessment Grant (2000).

Bureau of Waste Management

www.dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/

[ISO 14001 Certified Waste Management Program](#)

On September 18, 2003, the Department's Waste Management Program was ISO 14001 certified. This is a first-in-the-nation certification to a government agency relating to policy development and program implementation, not just operations. It is also unique in the collaboration with stakeholders to develop a shared policy vision for waste management: Moving Towards Zero Waste, and the 4 major goals to step towards that vision: minimize and reduce waste; minimize the environmental impacts of landfills; eliminate backyard burning and dumping; and education.

[ISO 14001 Certified Spooner Campus \(Updated February 11, 2004\)](#)

On April 29, 2003, the Department's Spooner Campus was ISO 14001 certified. This is the first site certified at the DNR, and included waste management program operations which tied with the Program certification achieved later in the year. This certification covered all operations at the Spooner service center, including the fish hatchery. It is one of the first public agencies in the country to certify all these operations and has statewide and national significance.

[Beneficial Reuse and Low Hazard Exemption of Waste](#)

Legislation passed in the mid-90's encourage the reuse of high volume industrial waste by allowing DNR to expeditiously exempt specific wastes or uses from going to landfills. Specific examples include the reuse of foundry sands at golf courses and alternative uses for recycled glass.

[NR 538 \(Beneficial Reuse of Industrial Byproducts\)](#)

NR 538 (Beneficial Reuse of Industrial Byproducts) was built on the beneficial reuse legislation (above) to designate self-implementing exemptions for proven uses of industrial waste (byproducts) such as foundry sand, utility ash and sludges, and set up a clear process for approving "new" uses. Today, over 80% of these byproducts are reused rather than landfilled.

[NR 526: Medical Waste Management](#)

Developed in the mid-90's, the Medical Waste Management rule (NR 526) requires medical waste reduction policies at health care facilities. This rule encourages self-implementation with only minor annual reporting. Information regarding medical waste reuse, recycling and management is included on the Waste Program's Web page.

[Cooperative Environmental Agreements](#)

The Waste Management Program has worked with the Cooperative Environmental Assistance program on several Cooperative Environmental Agreements related to waste issues. These agreements reduce administrative burden while striving to go beyond compliance with current law. Examples include: MG&E was allowed to burn a number of waste materials that actually improved their air emissions without being pulled into the regulations meant to control garbage incinerators; WE Energies was allowed to recover ash from closed landfills, reburn the ash in the Pleasant Prairie Power Plant, and reuse the ash from that plant; Cook Composites was not required to relicense their hazardous waste storage facility while the company implemented process changes that eliminated the generation of hazardous waste.

[1996 NR 500 Series \(Solid Waste Management\) Rule Revisions](#)

1996 NR 500 series (Solid Waste Management) rule revisions involved a number of regulatory improvement measures including:

- Expedited plan modifications. Simple changes that didn't need extensive DNR review were automatically approved if DNR didn't object within 30 days. We've even taken this a step further by developing template letters that allow the facility to move forward before the 30 days if we agree with the modification.

- A number of exemptions were added to the processing facility section allowing specific types of facilities to forego plan review and licensing.
- Composting regulations were introduced which exempted most simple composting operations and set up best management practices for others in lieu of up front plan approval.
- Exemptions by rule for wood ash and glass pavement.
- Removing a number of mandatory requirements from the Initial Site Report and allowing the information to be submitted in a voluntary pre-feasibility report (at the facility's discretion) or in the feasibility report.

Reform to Improve Clean-ups at Waste Disposal Sites

Guidance developed with the Remediation and Redevelopment Program in 2002 provides for:

- Brownfield clean up and redevelopments to proceed without invoking regulations that impede the clean-up and are protective of the environment and public health. Waste consolidation and the presumption of “non-hazardous” where the origin of contamination is not known are the alternatives used.
- Development on and adjacent to waste disposal sites is expedited through an exemption process.

Recycling, Reuse and Management of Computers

The proper recycling, reuse and management of computers, including cathode ray tubes (CRTs) is promoted through July, 2003 guidance. Hazardous waste regulations that impede proper recycling of these materials are not invoked.

Management of Hazardous Waste

Several reform measures implemented for the management of hazardous waste include:

- Combined annual reporting of hazardous waste generation and air emissions, reducing the transaction costs for industry.
- Revising the hazardous waste annual report form to a “streamlined” form every other year.
- Allowing very small business generators of hazardous waste to properly collect and manage hazardous waste without the regulation of larger industrial generators.

Current Improvement Efforts

Three ongoing improvement efforts will address efficiency and administrative costs:

- Electronic Reporting System pilot to allow recycling responsible units to receive and submit their data electronically;
- Solid Waste Plan Review Streamlining Measures to improve process efficiencies. Examples include: Needs and Alternatives analyses; reduce certain testing; increase self-implementation under the Beneficial Reuse of Byproducts and lower risk non-landfill solid waste facilities; and
- Use of Environmental Management Systems in the re-licensing of a hazardous waste treatment and storage facility.

For more information on any of these initiatives, please contact Sue Bangert, Director, Bureau of Waste Management, suzanne.bangert@dnr.state.wi.us, 608/266-0014, or visit our Web site: www.dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/.

AIR & WASTE DIVISION SUCCESS STORIES

October – December, 2003

Project	Comments
Wisconsin Cast Metals Association Annual Meeting <i>Bureau of Cooperative Environmental Assistance</i>	<p>On behalf of our members, I want to express our appreciation to you for joining us last week at the WCMA Annual Meeting/Legislative Conference.</p> <p>Your remarks on the various regulatory initiatives are encouraging. I can tell you that based on the comments I heard later, there is a real respect for the Department's commitment to innovation. I also want to assure you that our association is likewise dedicated to continuing our partnership in that effort.</p> <p>Thank you again for an outstanding presentation! You also had some very helpful suggestions on how to access and have input into the different programs and initiatives. We thank you and look forward to working with you going forward.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Letter to CEA Bureau Director Mark McDermid from Charles M. (Chuck) Kurtti, President Wisconsin Cast Metals Association October 9, 2003</i></p>
U.S. Oil Co., Inc. <i>Bureau of Air Management</i>	<p>Dear Governor Doyle,</p> <p>On behalf of myself, my company, U.S. Oil, the Petroleum Marketers Association of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Association of Convenience Stores, and all the gasoline retailers in Wisconsin, thank you for obtaining a temporary waiver of RFG standards in Wisconsin's non-attainment area last weekend. If it weren't for that waiver many, many gas stations in the region would have run out of product and would have been effectively out-of-business until new supplies arrived – some of them for three or more days.</p> <p>Any gas station that runs out of product is seriously hurt. Besides the money that is lost while the station pumps are temporarily down, the loss of customers and customer-goodwill is extremely damaging. Repairing that damage takes months and recouping the lost revenue is impossible.</p> <p>The temporary waiver of RFG requirements from EPA was critically important to petroleum marketers last weekend. Thank you for responding so quickly to our request for help and for everything you did to prevent a terrible situation. Bob Bartlett told me it was truly impressive how rapidly and efficiently your staff worked to achieve the waiver. And, it is obvious how committed you and your staff are to helping Wisconsin businesses. Again, thank you.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Letter from Tom Schmidt PMAW/WACS Chairman of the Board October 17, 2003</i></p>

Construction Permits
Bureau of Air Management

I'm glad to hear that the air permit process is completed and that you guys are moving ahead full speed with the project.

My personal thanks to Sec. Hassett and his people for immediately responding to your concerns re timing.

*E-mail from Cory Nettles
Secretary of Commerce
October 23, 2003*

Ayres Associates/Village of Potosi
Bureau for Remediation & Redevelopment

On behalf of the village of Potosi, Ayres Associates would like to extend its sincere appreciation to the Department of Natural Resources for assisting in the funding for this project. The Department of Natural Resources graciously awarded the Village a [site assessment] grant [SAG] to assist in funding the environment activities outlined in this report. Without this funding support, this Brownfield site may have laid idle indefinitely. The Village and Ayres Associates are indebted to the Department for making this financial assistance available for this important redevelopment project.

*Village of Potosi's Phase II Environmental Assessment Report
October 29, 2003*

Case Closure for the Kerr McGee Service Station, New Richmond
*Bureau for Remediation & Redevelopment,
West Central Region*

Dear Mr. Hassett:

I recently received a letter from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources outlining a conditional case closure for the Kerr McGee Service Station in New Richmond, Wisconsin.

The purpose of this letter is to commend your staff for coordinating, monitoring, and directing the clean up efforts for the above case. It is our strong belief that the success of the cleanup effort was a direct result of the positive involvement of WDNR staff.

We discovered the spill in 1989 and our business was overwhelmed by the disaster. During the next thirteen years the WDNR was there to assure us, help us, guide us and indeed challenge us as the cleanup process continued. The spill from the Kerr McGee station was substantial and the cleanup process was multi-leveled, requiring management and direction of a number of different players, each with their own agenda.

Mr. Pat Collins has been our contact and was absolutely focused on achieving the best possible success with the clean up project. His efforts, his dedication and his professionalism were essential components in the ultimate success that was achieved. Early in the process, Mr. Bill Evans was directly involved in helping plot the course for the project. His results were significant.

In our business, we would call Pat and Bill, "go-to individuals." They are fixed on their mission and deliver results. Your

organization is fortunate to have individuals of their caliber.

Mr. Hassett, we appreciate the efforts the WDNR has made to achieve the cleanup of the Kerr McGee service station spill. Thank you.

*Letter from William L. Buell, President
Domain, Inc.
October 29, 2003*

**Hess Memorial Hospital,
Inc./Delton Family Medical**

Developing a close working relationship with WDNR also kept things moving.

**Center
Bureau of Waste
Management**

I can't say enough... about how quickly the DNR responded to our needs. They were exceptional to work with.

**Bureau for Remediation &
Redevelopment**

RMT gained approval to proceed on several elements within one day of making submittals, because the agency was kept informed.

South Central Region

*Excerpts from Landfill Gas Management, Timing is Everything
RMT Network, Fall, 2003
<http://www.rmtinc.com/doc/net059.pdf>*

**North Central PIMA
Bureau of Cooperative
Environmental Assistance**

North Central PIMA wants to thank you for participating in our fall meeting. We appreciate the time you took to give us some insight on how the DNR is working with our industry for the betterment of all. It is very encouraging to know that there will be changes in procedures that will make the industry more competitive.

Hopefully, the question and answer segment was not too hard on you, and we certainly appreciated your candid answers.

Again, thank you for helping us with a successful meeting.

*Letter to CEA Bureau Director Mark McDermid
from Art Rankin, 1st Vice Chair
North Central PIMA
November 7, 2003*

**Award for WPS Green Bay
Gas Plant Site
Bureau for Remediation &
Redevelopment
Northeast Region**

The restoration of the WPS Green Bay Gas Plant Site has been selected to receive a recognition award from the Mayor's Beautification Committee. The award will be presented on Thursday, November 13 at a luncheon at the Days Inn. WPS was given complimentary tickets and we'll be sitting at a "WPS" table. I'll be accepting the award because our CEO will be out of town.

Your efforts contributed significantly to this project's success (including being finished on time!) If your schedule permits, would you like to attend the awards luncheon with me?

*E-mail from Connie Lawniczak to
Kristin DuFresne, DNR Northeast Region
November 7, 2003*

This is a great example of our staff working well with a major utility on a complicated and often controversial project!

Dave Hildreth, NER Air & Waste Leader

November 10, 2003

Packaging Corporation of America Biogas Project

Bureau of Air Management

Bureau of Cooperative

Environmental Assistance

Dear Secretary Hassett:

On behalf of PCA, I would like to personally thank you for your assistance in elevating the timely permitting of our biogas collection and reuse project to top priority status within your Agency. The partnership that developed between the Department's Air and Environmental Cooperative Assistance Bureaus and Packaging Corporation of America (PCA) was key to the success of this effort. Absent such a well-timed response, the project would have been delayed until next year, at a minimum.

We greatly appreciate the significant involvement and contributions of Mark McDermid and Laurel Sukup, both with the Bureau of Environmental Cooperative Assistance, as well as Neal Baudhuin and Mike Wagner of the Air Bureau. As it stands, project construction began in late October with completion slated for February.

Our joint cooperation and creativity resulted in "wins" for green energy, air quality and paper manufacturing. We have been particularly encouraged by your media comments citing this project as an example of how good things can happen when the Agency and private business work together.

PCA looks forward to engaging the Department in the future in ways that allow the exercise of regulatory flexibility and process innovation in ways that result in similar positive and productive gains.

Letter from Bruce A. Ridley

Tomahawk Mill Manager

Packaging Corporation of America

November 12, 2003

Green Bay Yacht Club

Bureau of Air Management

Northeast Region

A big tip of the Green Bay Yachting Club hat to Raj Rao, WDNR Air Quality Engineer, and Pete Rebhahn, Environmental Editor-Green Bay Press Gazette. Both of these folks have been very instrumental listening to our issue (coal dust pollution), bringing it to the attention of the public (Pete Rebhahn), and notifying the offending party to take corrective action (Raj Rao). Thank you both very much...

Excerpt of e-mail from Paul Buntin

Green Bay Yachting Club

November 15, 2003

Johnson Polymer
Bureau of Air Management
Southeast Region

I wanted to make you aware that Ruhun [Goonewardena] has completed the public notice for an expedited permit for Johnson Polymer (received on November 11) in less than one weeks time, and completed the public notice for an expedited permit for BWay Corporation on Friday (application completed on November 10) in four days time. Additionally, he is waiting for WE Energies to submit some additional modeling information for the expedited permit for Pleasant Prairie and anticipates being able to issue within a few days of receiving that information.

This short turnaround [of New Source Review] is exceptional and [I] would like to recognize his accomplishment...

Excerpt of email from Lauren Hambrook
DNR, Southeast Region
November 17, 2003

S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc.
Bureau of Air Management

Dear Secretary Hassett:

Scott Johnson, Bill Schiller and I want to thank you, Lloyd Eagan, Gloria McCutcheon and the other Department staff for your visit to our Waxdale facility on November 11. We hope you gained additional appreciation for our corporate commitment to environmental protection and sustainability, and the difficulties that current New Source Review regulations impose on our manufacturing operations.

We are encouraged to hear the rapid progress that your Air Bureau is making in reviewing the Department's current New Source Review rules and drafting revisions that will incorporate key provisions of recently adopted EPA reforms. Our environmental staff looks forward to continuing to work with the Air Bureau in developing rule changes that will provide needed flexibility for SC Johnson and other manufacturers without compromising environmental standards.

SC Johnson considers NSR extremely important to our future in Wisconsin. Your commitment to responsible reform is very much appreciated.

Letter from Darcy D. Massey
Senior Vice President
Worldwide Manufacturing and Procurement
SC Johnson & Son, Inc.
November 19, 2003

SCA 2 NOV
Northeast Region

On November 19, 2003, 10:31 a.m., Roovers returned a phone call to Mike Dillon (920-720-4585) Environmental and Risk Manager for the Tissue Division of SCA in Neenah.

Dillon stated he was calling to introduce himself and get an update from the Department re the NOV issued to SCA 2... The permit revision was discussed, as was communications between the Department and SCA.

Dillon profusely praised the efforts of Sally [Hronek] and Stan [Mermall] regarding the rewrite of the permit. Dillon stated it has been a pleasure to work with both of them...

*E-mail from Karl Roovers
DNR, Northeast Region
Bureau of Law Enforcement
November 19, 2003*

**Asbestos Issues in the
Menomonee Valley**
*Bureau of Cooperative
Environmental Assistance*

Thanks for your help resolving asbestos issues in the Menomonee Valley – you must have set a new speed record on this!!

*Note from Lilith Fowler
MVP Inc.
November 26, 2003*

**Open Burning, Former
County Comprehensive
Center**
*Sheboygan County
Southeast Region*

Excellent!

...The help and cooperation of your agency in getting him through this process both lawfully and successfully goes a long way to ensuring [the] overall successful restoration of the property.

While the county no longer owns the parcel, we are definitely interested in providing support where possible to assure that the property remains in the hands of the private sector.

Your help and assistance is deeply appreciated!

*E-mail from Bernard R. Rammer
Sheboygan County Purchasing Agent
December 1, 2003*

Larson-Juhl, Ashland
*Bureau of Air Management
Northern Region*

.... Just wanted to drop you a note and thank you for all the help you [Neal Baudhuin], Phyliss and Bob provided us in the permit process.

*Excerpt of e-mail from Wayne Cameron
Larson-Juhl, Ashland
December 1, 2003*

**Town of Middle Inlet Draft
Comprehensive Plan**
Northeast Region

Thank you for the constructive review and comments. Believe it or not, this was the first time any State Agency has provided any feed back to me on a draft Comprehensive Plan, and to date I have prepared 12 of them. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting tonight and have already made copies of your comments for distribution to plan committee members...

*Excerpt of e-mail from Brad Bauer to
Cathy Rodda, DNR Northeast Region
December 3, 2003*

Ulrich Landfill, Menasha
Northeast Region

I received a phone call from Mayor Jim Laux this morning in regards to the Ulrich landfill in Menasha.

In a nutshell...elevated levels of methane were detected on the site (a landfill) at levels above the LEL. I sent a letter asking for immediate action, to first take measurements for methane gas in the nearby residences. Second to put together a workplan for additional investigation and submit it within 20 days. This letter was cc'd to the City. No methane was detected...the workplan has not been started as of yet.

The mayor was very pleasant and was basically calling to offer assistance if the Department finds resistance...to move forward with any of the emergency work which is necessary.

*E-mail from Jennifer Pelcza
DNR, Northeast Region
December 3, 2003*

BRRTS
*Bureau for Remediation &
Redevelopment*

... Mike Dean in the City of Madison is working with a purchaser to sell a site with a closed L UST case. Mike called and left a voice mail message looking for information on the status of the case. By the time I returned the call 30 minutes later, he had already found what he needed on BRRTS on the web. He stated that he was worried about trying to locate what he needed at first but quickly found that he was able to get everything in a few minutes.

He also complimented our DNR Web site and stated that we've done a great job in disseminating information and helping him understand state government. Please pass this on to all those that would appreciate this compliment.

*E-mail from Jennifer Barski, DNR
December 9, 2003*

**Bay Shipbuilding Co. Air
Permit**
*Bureau of Air Management
Northeast Region*

I would like to complement the WDNR, especially Michelle M. Farley the Air Management Engineer for our area and you for the prompt attention and review of Bay Shipbuilding Co. new addition building plans as they relate to our air permit.

As you are aware Bay Ship has recently signed some shipbuilding

contracts which require us to build a number of vessels over the next two years. In order to accomplish this and be competitive with other parts of the country we needed to update a fabrication process and add on to a building to contain it. Our request to review the proposed facility changes and their effect on our air permit was on short notice. It was imperative on our end that we get a quick turnaround as these facility changes were time sensitive, requiring us to order over a million dollars worth of equipment and break ground for the building before everything froze up.

Michelle and your effort to review our proposed changes allowed us in a timely fashion to demonstrate that our emissions with this change will be within limits of our existing permit. The ability to give a go ahead meant that contracts to build and buy for this project can go ahead. In the short run this will mean a boost for the local economy as building commences. In the long run it will help Bay Ship be more competitive with shipbuilders in other parts of the country. This will hopefully allow us to maintain a more stable and higher level of employment in our community over the coming years.

Again thanks again for your assistance in processing the request quickly.

*E-mail from Richard Propsom
Mgr. Safety & Compliance
Bay Shipbuilding Co.
December 11, 2003*

**WI Asphalt Pavement
Association Annual
Conference**
*Bureau of Cooperative
Environmental Assistance*

Thank you for taking time to attend our annual conference.

The efforts of you, Jerry and the Bureau staff helped improve the environment and given our industry a partner who works with us.

Again, thank you for your time and effort.

*Note from Wisconsin Asphalt Pavement Association
December 16, 2003*

G-P Alpine Drive Landfill
*Bureau of Waste
Management
Northeast Region*

I understand you had Greg [Tilkens] assigned to the G-P Alpine Drive Landfill to complete the review of the monitoring proposal.

This note is to express my appreciation for Greg's expedient review and assistance. With his quick turn around we were able to install the required monitoring wells within our time constraints. An 'atta boy' should be extended to Greg!

*E-mail from Steven Shimek to
Len Polczynski, DNR Northeast Region
December 17, 2003*

**Menomonee Valley
City of Milwaukee**

Dear Secretary Hassett:

As the year closes, I wanted to be sure you knew of the superb effort and commitment members of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) staff have made to contribute to the clean up and redevelopment of what has been called "Wisconsin's most visible brownfield" – the former Milwaukee Road Shops site next to Miller Park in the Menomonee Valley.

This project has been a priority for the City of Milwaukee. We undertook the largest eminent domain action in our history. We partnered in a national design competition that yielded an innovative site design and we have pursued and won almost every state and federal brownfield grant offered. The effort that has gone into this site is overwhelming.

What is no less remarkable, and appreciated, is the long-term involvement of many WDNR staff in the Menomonee Valley. They have contributed to the vision, and now the implementation. Since the City gained title to this land this summer, your staff has been working with us to find cost-effective solutions that protect human health and the environment and enable this long-neglected site to be returned to productive use.

Mark McDermid's exceptionally quick response recently enabled us to stay within timelines at the very time our project budget was being approved through the political process. Your Brownfields Redevelopment section chief in Madison, Darsi Foss, has provided leadership. Laurie Egge has administered our Sustainable Urban Development Zone grant, early funding without which we could not have begun the project.

In Milwaukee, Gloria McCutcheon has been involved and supportive since we started focusing on the Valley more than five years ago. We have enjoyed Margaret Brunette's long-term involvement and practical approach. The project has benefited greatly from her perspective and her commitment. Bizhan Sheikholeslami and Saji Viloth have helped us with difficult details on solid waste and asbestos, and enhanced water quality has been ensured by the efforts of Jim Ritchie.

This is surely the largest and most complex remediation and redevelopment in Milwaukee's history. It is also one that has, perhaps, the most promise to show our state what is possible in terms of sound design, restoration and integration of the built and natural environments. Your department and your people continue to make a difference here. I know all of the many partners in Milwaukee look forward to continuing this great work together in the new year.

*Letter from John O. Norquist, Mayor
City of Milwaukee
December 29, 2003*